



The Legislature
of the
State of New Mexico

50th Legislature, 2nd Session

LAWS 2012

CHAPTER _____

SENATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE MEMORIAL 20

Introduced by



1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THAT THE STATE DEVELOP A SERVICE PLAN FOR AUTISM
3 SPECTRUM DISORDER, THROUGH A DYNAMIC PLANNING PROCESS LED BY
4 THE INTERAGENCY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PURCHASING COLLABORATIVE,
5 WITH PARTICIPATION BY THE INSURANCE DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC
6 REGULATION COMMISSION, THE NEW MEXICO AUTISM TASK FORCE, THE
7 AUTISM OVERSIGHT TEAM, THE NEW MEXICO AUTISM SOCIETY, THE
8 AUTISM PROGRAMS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO CENTER FOR
9 DEVELOPMENT AND DISABILITY, THE NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY
10 SPECIAL EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION DISORDERS AUTISM
11 INITIATIVE, INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES AFFECTED BY AUTISM
12 SPECTRUM DISORDER AND OTHER APPROPRIATE STAKEHOLDERS, THAT
13 BUILDS ON THE TENETS OF PREVIOUS PLANS AND REPORTS.

14
15 WHEREAS, the legislature recognizes that autism spectrum
16 disorder is the largest-growing developmental disability in
17 the world and that one in one hundred ten New Mexicans under
18 the age of eight meets criteria for an autism spectrum
19 disorder; and

20 WHEREAS, the legislature has worked diligently with the
21 autism community and state agencies to meet the needs of this
22 growing population; and

23 WHEREAS, the legislature understands that the numbers of
24 new diagnoses as well as the needs of underserved early
25 childhood, school-age and adult populations have negatively

1 affected the development and implementation of adequate
2 services and support for individuals with autism spectrum
3 disorder and their families in New Mexico;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
5 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state develop a service plan for
6 autism spectrum disorder, through a dynamic planning process
7 led by the interagency behavioral health purchasing
8 collaborative, with participation by the insurance division
9 of the public regulation commission, the New Mexico autism
10 task force, the autism oversight team, the New Mexico autism
11 society, the autism programs at the university of New Mexico
12 center for development and disability, the New Mexico state
13 university special education and communication disorders
14 autism initiative, individuals and families affected by
15 autism spectrum disorder and other stakeholders, that builds
16 on the tenets of previous plans and reports and that includes
17 the following:

18 A. access to multidisciplinary diagnosis for
19 people of all ages;

20 B. evidence-based and accessible treatment in the
21 private and public sectors with:

22 (1) appropriate behavioral health services
23 included in medicaid modernization that makes available both
24 evidence-based intervention and comprehensive community
25 support services;

1 (2) the state employee insurance plan
2 adopting the New Mexico autism insurance mandate;

3 (3) reasonable copayments or the waiving of
4 certain copayments, allowing individuals and families access
5 to care; and

6 (4) a comprehensive and transparent process
7 that determines the level of care and appropriate support for
8 children with challenging behaviors, with a focus on:

9 (a) support to the individual and
10 family;

11 (b) notice of whether community
12 resources are available or have been exhausted;

13 (c) the role of public schools in
14 funding the educational component of a higher level of care;

15 (d) the development and implementation
16 of autism-specific standards for residential treatment
17 centers;

18 (e) discharge plans that make available
19 training and technical assistance for community providers;
20 and

21 (f) guidance from the public education
22 department on the reintegration of children from residential
23 settings into public schools and on how professional
24 development for student-specific needs will be achieved; and

25 C. a means to assess the needs of high-functioning

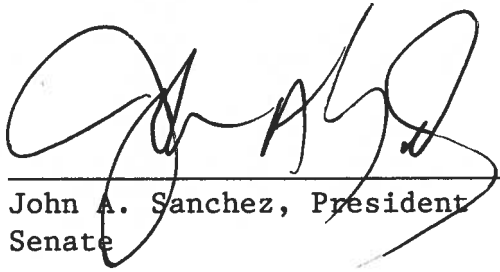
1 adults with autism spectrum disorder who do not qualify for
2 developmental disabilities services and to offer them
3 appropriate levels of support; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the service plan include
5 both the proposed policy development and the funding
6 necessary to begin implementation; and

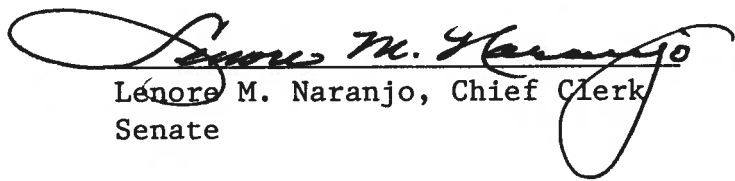
7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interagency behavioral
8 health purchasing collaborative, through work with the other
9 named stakeholders, deliver and report on the plan, which
10 includes both the proposed policy development and the funding
11 necessary to begin implementation, to the interim legislative
12 health and human services committee by November 1, 2012; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
14 transmitted to the interagency behavioral health purchasing
15 collaborative, the insurance division of the public regulation
16 commission, the New Mexico autism task force, the autism
17 oversight team, the New Mexico autism society, the university
18 of New Mexico center for development and disability, the New
19 Mexico state university special education and communication
20 disorders autism initiative and the interim legislative health
21 and human services committee. _____

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John A. Sanchez, President
Senate



Lenore M. Naranjo, Chief Clerk
Senate

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SENATE